

CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) Method for automatically setting up data connections between network subscriber stations in a network of distributed stations, where the network contains at least one recording appliance, a data source appliance and a data sink appliance, comprising the following steps:

user-activated selection of a user interface for the recording appliance on a user interface appliance;

identifying a data source appliance by checking for ~~the~~ existing data connections which have been set up for the data sink appliance or the user interface appliance in the network;

automatically setting-up ~~set up~~ of a connection between the data source appliance, for which a connection to the data sink appliance or to the user interface appliance, has been set up and the recording appliance in order to assist in the implementation of an instant-recording function on the recording appliance.

2. (Previously presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the data connection between the data source appliance and the recording appliance is set up only after the recording function on the recording appliance has been activated by the user.

3. (Previously presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the user interface appliance is a display appliance for video images, and the user interface is based on a graphical user interface.

4. (Previously presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the data sink appliance is an amplifier device for audio signals.

5. (Previously presented) Method according to Claim 1, wherein the recording appliance is a digital video recorder or a digital audio recorder.

6. (Previously presented) Network subscriber station as a user interface appliance for carrying out the method according to Claim 1, having program means for providing user interfaces for controlling network subscriber stations, wherein the user interface appliance has further program means which, upon activation of the user interface for the control of a recording appliance in the network by the user, call up checking program means which trigger a check regarding the existing data connections which have been set up for a data sink appliance or the

user interface appliance itself and automatically set up a data connection between the data source appliance for which a data connection to the data sink appliance or to the user interface appliance has been set up and the recording appliance in order to assist in the implementation of an instant-recording function on the recording appliance in the network.

7. (Previously presented) Network subscriber station according to Claim 6, wherein the further program means are designed such that they set up the data connection between the data source appliance and the recording appliance in the network only after the recording function on the recording appliance has been activated by the user.

8. (Previously presented) Network subscriber station according to Claim 6, wherein the user interface appliance is a display appliance for video images, and the user interface is based on a graphical user interface.

9. (Previously presented) Network subscriber station according to Claim 6, wherein the data sink appliance is an amplifier device for audio signals.

10. (Previously presented) Network subscriber station according to Claim 6, wherein the recording appliance is a digital video recorder or a digital audio recorder.